

CONCORDIA

Aug. 2, 2000

Stingers



Figsby named head coach of Stingers men's hockey team

Concordia University Director of Recreation and Athletics Harry Zarins is pleased to announce Kevin Figsby has been hired as the full-time head coach of the Concordia Stingers men's hockey program.

'I'm ecstatic,' Figsby said. 'This is the level of hockey that I've always wanted to coach. The combination of athletics and academics in a university community is something I've always wanted to be a part of.'

Figsby, 39, took over the coaching job on an interim basis in January, and under his guidance the Stingers posted a 9-4-1 win-loss-tie record in the regular season before losing in the OUA Far East semifinals. After the season a committee, which included a player representative, reviewed all the applications and decided Figsby was the person it wanted to lead the team.

"We are thrilled to have Kevin join the staff at Concordia," said Zarins. "He is exactly what we were looking for to take our program to the next level. He is a very knowledgeable coach with a proven track record, he is a strong communicator and he has displayed a deep concern for the well-being of his athletes."

Figsby is a successful motivator with more than 15 years of coaching experience at the provincial, national and international levels. He is best known for his work with the Lac St. Louis Midget AAA Lions. He was also head coach of the Quebec under-17 team that won a bronze medal at the world championship in 1995 and was a guest coach with the Canadian national senior team at evaluation camps in 1995 and 1997. In addition, he was co-coach at John Abbott College from 1985-92.

Speaking on behalf of his teammates veteran Patrick Groleau said it was a positive move for the hockey program.

"The guys that played for him last season are very happy," he said. "He's a good hockey technician and a good organizer. He planned a lot of off-ice activities for us and I know he has great plans for the alumni. He brings a lot of enthusiasm to the program. He's also very easy to talk to. He's a friend to the guys."

Figsby and his wife Debbie live in Baie d'Urfé with their two girls, Shannon, 13, and Keileigh. 10.

For information call sports information office at 848-3862.
Kevin Figsby can be reached at Concordia (today and Friday) at 848-3856.